Fundamental Concepts on the use of a Basic Dimension: Positional Tolerancing (GD&T)

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ANSI/ASME Y 14.5M - 1994 Dimensioning and Tolerancing

revision of

ANSI Y 14.5M - 1982 Both are in current use



Geometric Dimensioning & Tolerancing

Basic Dimensions

Positional Tolerancing &

Tolerance Zones they locate



Basic Dimensions

Have No Tolerance

Locate Tolerance Zones



A dimension that is considered theoretically perfect.

Used to describe the theoretically exact size, profile, orientation, or location of a feature or datum target.



Basic Dimensions verses Conventional Dimensioning

No plus and minus next to the dimension

Placed in a rectangle

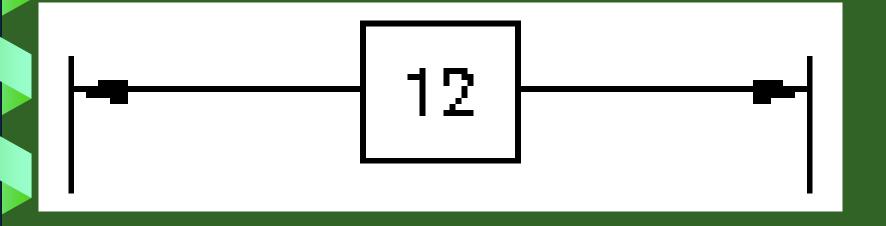


Basic Dimensions verses Conventional Dimensioning

- Identified by general note
 - Untoleranced dimensions locating true position are basic

Locates associated tolerance zone

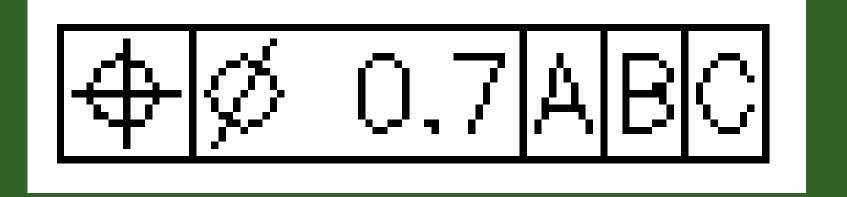
Basic Dimension



Describes a theoretically exact location

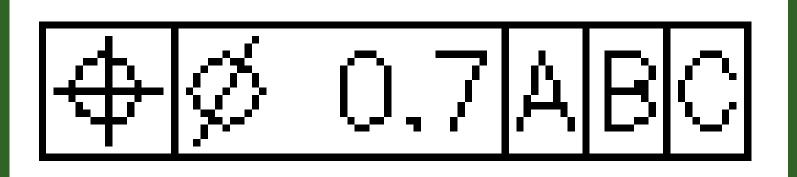
Where the associated tolerance zone is located

Feature Control Frame Tolerance Zone



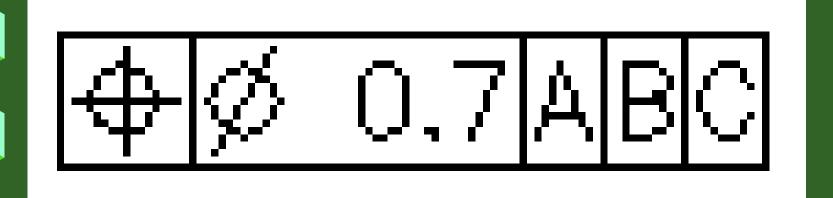
The associated tolerance zone is found in the feature control frame

Feature Control Frame



- True Position
- Zone Descriptor
- Tolerance
- Datums

Feature Control Frame



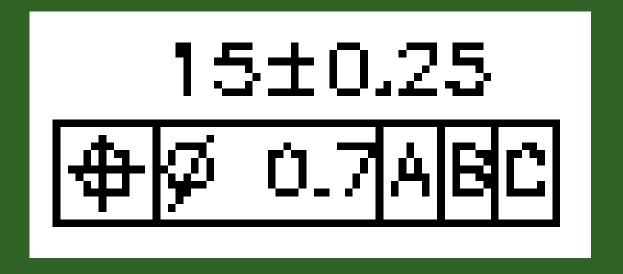
Axis of feature must remain in zone

0.7mm is total width of zone

Not a plus & minus tolerance

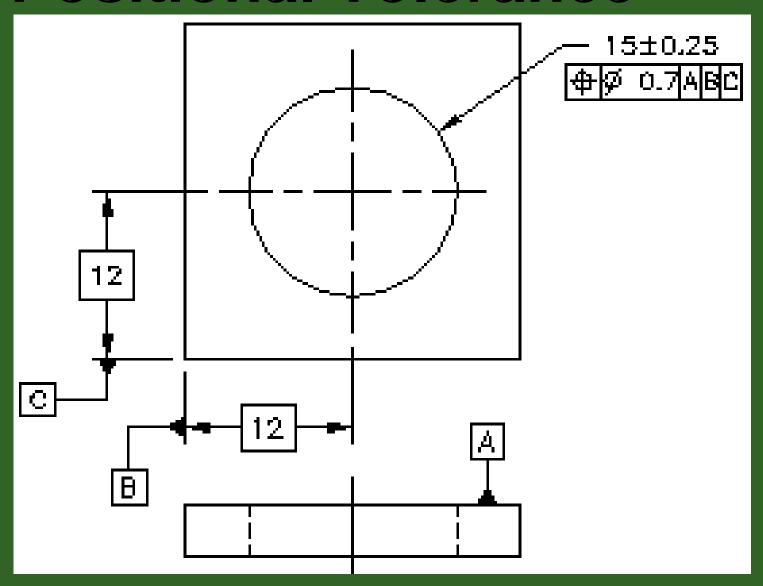
Zone is located at basic

Feature Control Frame

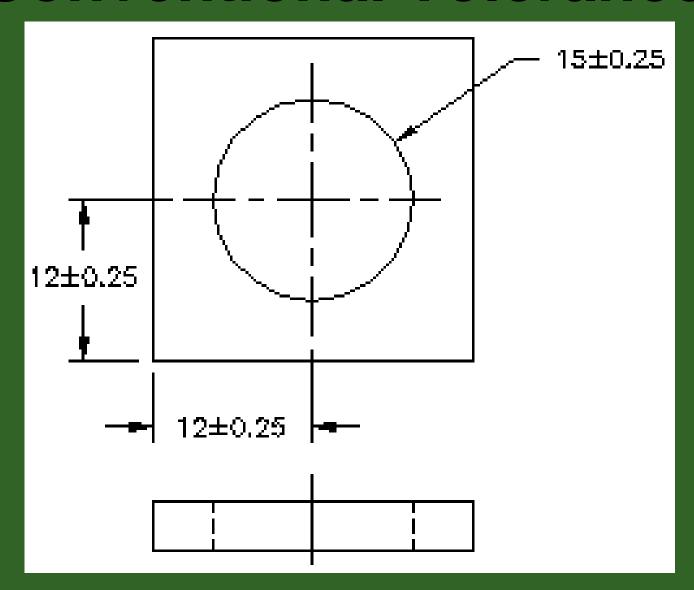


The feature control frame is located under the size dimension

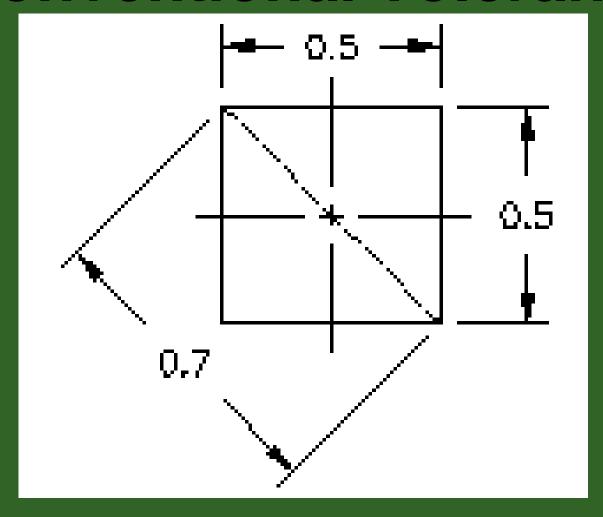
Positional Tolerance



Conventional Tolerance

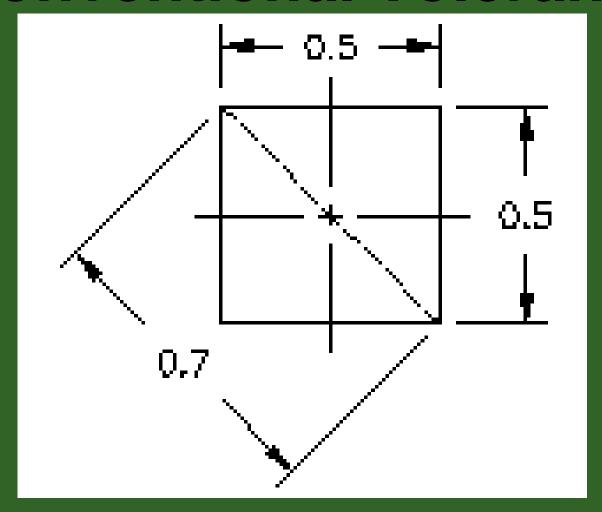


Conventional Tolerance



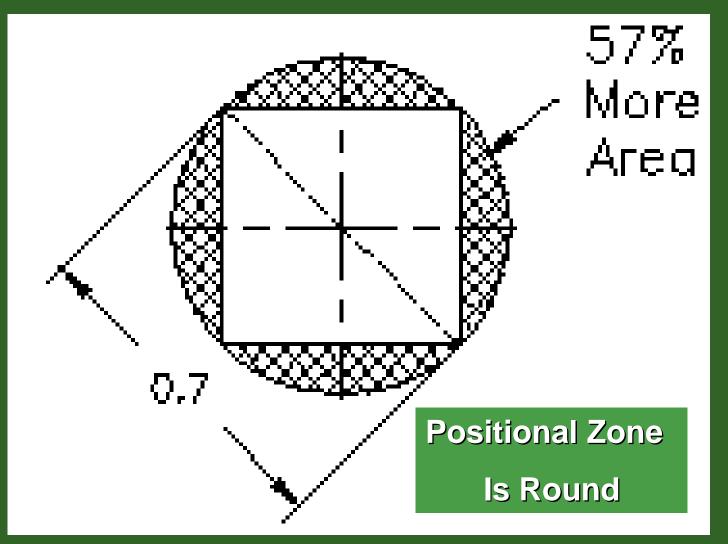
Shape of the zone is square

Conventional Tolerance



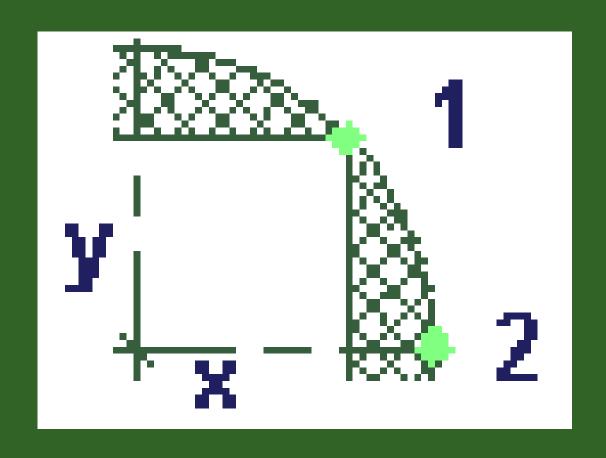
Axis of feature must remain within zone

Positional Tolerance Circumscribed about Conventional Tolerance



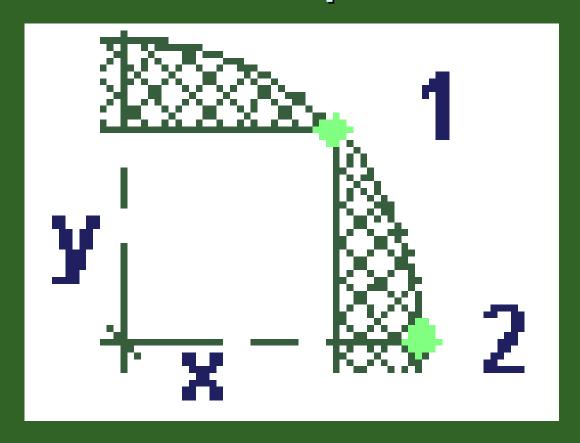
1 --- Max deviation in x and y

2 --- Max deviation in x
No deviation in y



Both locations will allow parts to be bolted together.

57% more area with positional tolerance

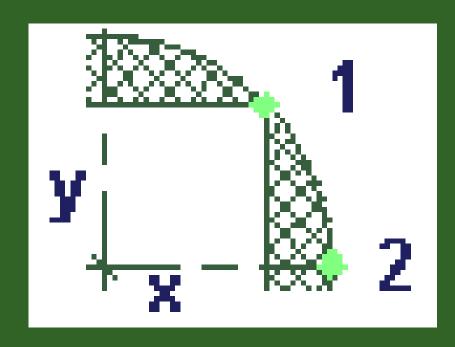




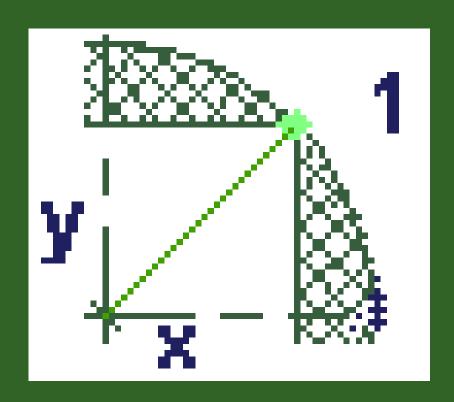
Point 1 x 0.25mm y 0.25mm

Point 2 x 0.35mm y 0.00mm

Formula $2\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$



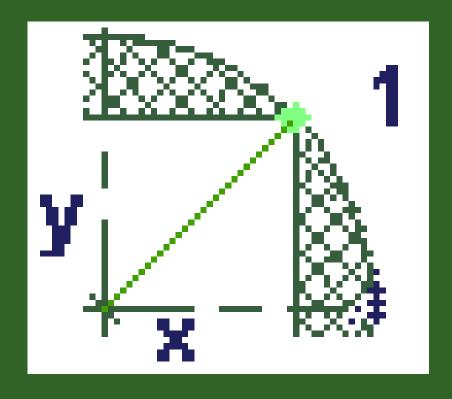
x & y absolute positive difference between the measured location & the basic dimension





Actual at 12.25mm or 11.75mm

Use positive 0.25mm in calculations

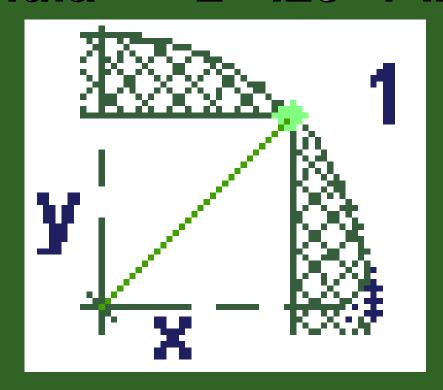


Basic 12.00 mm Actual location

x 12.25mm

y 12.25mm

$$2\sqrt{.25^2 + .25^2} = .7$$

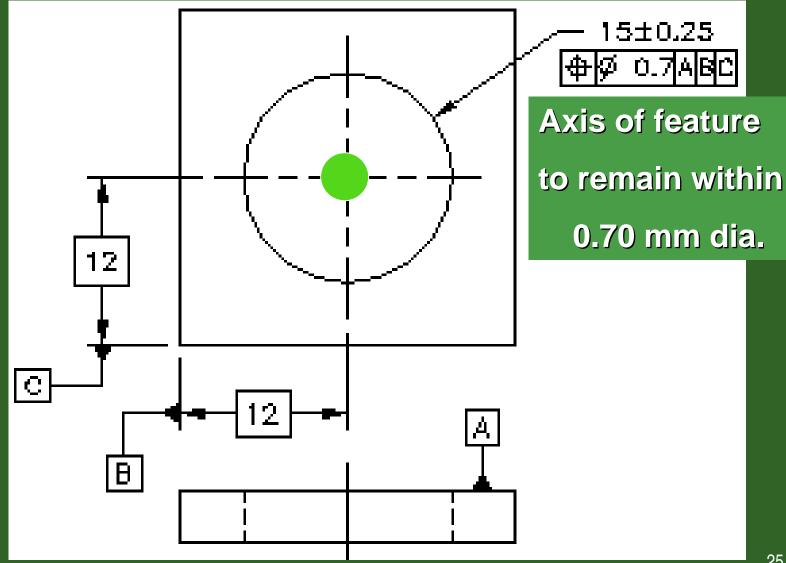




- in tolerance ----- equal or smaller
 - Axis of feature is at or inside zone

- out of tolerance ---- larger
 - Axis of feature is outside of zone

Positional Tolerance





Summary Basic Dimensions

Locate Tolerance Zones

Theoretically Perfect

Have No Tolerance



- Conventional
 - Square shape

- Positional
 - Round shape
 - 57% more area



Summary Tolerance Calculations

Use absolute, positive difference

Basic Dimension at 12.00mm

Actual at 12.25mm or 11.75mm

Use positive 0.25mm in calculations